

Interim Committee Study Priorities 2014 Interim

Business and Labor Interim Committee

1. Community Associations - to study changes to the Condominium Ownership Act and the Community Association Act relating to fines and reserve accounts (H.B. 172).
2. New Automobile Franchise Act - to study state regulation of new automobile dealership placement (H.B. 54).
3. Prudent Banking - to study a resolution urging Congress to pass H.R. 129, the Return to Prudent Banking Act of 2013.
4. Title and Escrow - to study legislation related to title and escrow issues.
5. Bail Bond Agents - to study whether bail bond agents should be under the Department of Insurance or the Bureau of Criminal Identification. Also review licensing surety collateralization when a bond is processed, when and how a penalty is paid, and other issues related to the industry.

Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee

1. Workforce Service Code Update and Reauthorization
2. Next steps for reducing Intergenerational Poverty
3. Tourism Marketing Performance Review
4. Economic Development Incentives (local and state)
5. Affordable Housing

Education Interim Committee

1. Principals' and teachers' roles in obtaining student achievement and how to support principals and teachers in performing their roles.
2. The deployment of individual computer devices.
3. The public education funding process and potential reform.

Government Operations Interim Committee

1. Refining processes related to initiative and referendum petitions
2. Study the appropriate timing for submitting campaign finance disclosure reports
3. Study discrepancies between state and local laws regarding lobbyist disclosure and campaign finance
4. Review of laws and policies regarding vehicles in the state motor pool

Health and Human Services Interim Committee

1. Medicaid Cost Containment
 - a. MSR 101. Mental Illness Funding - to study how mental illness is currently funded under Medicaid, whether this method works, and whether it needs to be changed (Redd).
 - b. MSR 102. Reducing Medicaid, Mental Health, and Pharmaceutical Costs - to study strategies to reduce Medicaid, mental health, and pharmaceutical costs, including preferred drug lists vs. other strategies, such as direct feedback to providers about costs of prescriptions (Redd).
 - c. MSR 90. Accountable Care Organizations - to study the effectiveness of accountable care organizations in reducing healthcare costs for Medicaid, whether this model works, and whether it is better than fee-for-service (Redd).
 - d. Use of the DOPL's controlled substances database
2. Electronic Cigarettes
 - a. State regulation of e-cigarettes
3. Regulation of Health Care Practitioners
 - a. DOPL findings, education efforts, and recommendations
 - b. Medicaid Inspector General finding, education efforts, and recommendations

Judiciary Interim Committee

1. To study administrative actions related to orders of expungement and whether specified agencies should expunge records related to administrative proceedings connected to expunged convictions.

2. Domestic asset protection trusts – to study the provisions in 2014 General Session 1st Sub. HB 208 and HB 162.

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee

1. Constables/PI's/process servers/special function officers: this item would study the practices, roles, responsibilities and authorities of each entity and any possible conflicts.
2. Transferring the multi-agency strike force from the AG's office to DPS: This issue refers to H.B. 100, 2014 Session (Greenwood). In the House Law Enforcement Standing committee, Rep. Greenwood and the Attorney General's Office agreed to study this issue over the 2014 interim.
3. Permanent identification for state inmates and county jail inmates prior to release: studying the process by which corrections and county jails ensure that inmates are provided permanent identification prior to release into the community – if there are any holes/gaps, why the gaps exist and how can we bridge the gaps so that inmates are ready to assimilate back into the community and secure employment and residence upon being released.
4. Restoration of civil rights for various non-violent felonies: studying the restoration of limited civil rights (gun ownership, etc) to persons convicted of specific non-violent felonies.

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee

1. The impact of federal land ownership, federal agency intervention, and federal agency policies on state, local, trust land, and private interests. Potential impacts that could be studied include threatened and endangered species (e.g. sage grouse); federal law enforcement in local jurisdictions; grazing rights; wild horse and burro damage; wild land fire prevention and mitigation; impact of federal land management on adjacent lands; water quality; air quality; economic development; livestock transportation and brand inspection; and other potential impacts.
2. Utah State Parks condition, maintenance, operation, costs, fee structure, and fee use. Potential privatization of golf courses.
3. State Fair Park infrastructure, operations, ownership, and funding. This issue could be looked at jointly with the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee.
4. Air Quality. Potential topics include what additional immediate steps that the state can take to improve air quality; options for encouraging low sulfur fuel production and sales in the state; comparison of EPA certified wood burning stoves with stoves not certified by the EPA; and what long term steps the state can take to improve air quality given the state's geography and growth projections.

Political Subdivisions Interim Committee

1. Assessment areas
2. Mobile home parks
3. Local government budget carryover limitations

Public Utilities and Technology Interim Committee

1. Interstate Transmission Line Planning
2. Integrated Utility Networks Impact on Competitive Energy Costs
3. Parity of Communication Assessments between Regulated and Unregulated Providers
4. Prohibition of Electronic Data Collection Assistance

Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee

1. MSR 196. 501(c)(3) Charitable Fundraising - to study whether 501(c)(3) organizations that have occasional concession sales to raise money for the purpose of giving the proceeds away to charitable causes should be subject to sales taxes (Henderson).
2. MSR 197. Business Personal Property Tax Exemption - to study whether to amend the Utah Constitution to provide a property tax exemption for business-owned tangible personal property (H.J.R. 2)(House Business and Labor Standing Committee).
3. MSR 210. Taxing Social Security - to study state taxation of Social Security benefits (Weiler).
4. MSR 243. The economic benefits of removing the three year economic life component of the manufacturer's sales tax exemption (Adams and Henderson).

Transportation Interim Committee

1. Transportation Funding: to study funding current and future needs, including examining the gas tax, the sales tax, vehicle registration fee adjustments to more accurately reflect vehicle efficiency and use of the road, and also review transit funding.
2. Salt Lake Airport Expansion
3. Reimbursement to State for Damage to Highways: study reimbursements by insurance companies for damage to highways, the current process for collecting the funds, and how the process can be improved.

4. Traffic Code Clean Up: to review the current traffic code and identify and clean up redundancies and any other errors.